

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Carrie Loy Downing Appointed Director of Legislative and External Affairs

Atlanta (July 13, 2006) – Dr. Rhonda Medows, Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) announced the appointment of Carrie Loy Downing as Director of Legislative and External Affairs. Downing will serve as the Department's liaison to the Georgia General Assembly and will be responsible for monitoring legislation impacting the Department as well as the many health care issues facing Georgia.

Prior to joining DCH, Ms. Downing worked in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Office of Enterprise Communications. In 2003, she served in the Office of the Secretary for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) working closely with the corporate sector, the White House and the public health community. Ms. Downing also served in the White House in 2002 as Deputy Associate Director of Cabinet Affairs.

"Carrie is an exceptional addition to the DCH team," says Dr. Rhonda Medows. "Her working knowledge of the legislative process, combined with health care and communications experience makes her uniquely qualified to represent the Department." Downing has also worked in the HHS Office of Legislation where she served as liaison to congressional offices and was responsible for preparing the HHS Secretary for congressional hearings.

A native of Georgia, Ms. Downing holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from the University of Georgia. She and her husband, Chris, currently reside in Tucker, Georgia.

About the Department of Community Health

The Georgia Department of Community Health champions:

ACCESS to affordable, quality health care in our communities

RESPONSIBLE health planning and use of health care resources

HEALTHY behaviors and improved health outcomes

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